(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) Rs. 5,537 per annum for three years from 1098.

(*d*) & (*e*) Except in rare instances, public works are executed by contract, and materials are not purchased by Government. The information required is thus not available and cannot be collected without much labour. Prices differ in different places. The price of burnt shells now varies from 5½ to 7 fanams per Madras *para* equivalent to five standard *paras*.

Lease of lime-shells.

123. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the annual income expected by Government from the lease of lime-shells, in our lakes, recently sold in public auction?

(*b*) What quantity of lime is annually purchased for Government use by the Public Works and Maramat Departments?

(*c*) What was the price of lime-shells before the auction sale referred to above? What is its present price?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The member is referred to the answer to part 2 (*c*) of Question No. 122.

(*b*) The member is referred to the answer to part 2 (*d*) of question No. 122.

(*c*) Price of burnt shells.

Before the auction sale.	5 to 6⅓ fanams	per Madras *para*.
After sale.	5½ to 7 Do	

Publication of Legislative Council Proceedings.

124. MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council:

(1) the reasons which weighed with them in discontinuing the practice of publishing the proceedings of the Legislative Council in the Government Gazette;

(2) why they have given up publishing the translation of the same;

(3) whether they are not alive to the fact that such authorised translations published in the Gazette are a means of enriching the vernacular and tending to the political education of the people;

(4) whether Government will be pleased to furnish the Council with the following figures:

(*a*) the approximate amount of money required for printing and publishing the whole proceedings of the last session of the Council in the present manner; and

(*b*) the approximate amount required for publishing the same matter in the Gazette; and

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[Mr. T. Kumara Pillai.]

(5) whether the Government will be pleased to revert to the former practice of publishing the proceedings in the Gazette with translations in the vernacular?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (1) The present Regulation does not require the publication of the proceedings in the Gazette and the Government considered that the publication of the proceedings in a handier form would better serve the convenience of both the Government and the public.

(2) On considerations of cost and to obviate delay.

(3) Translations of the proceedings would, no doubt, be useful. But, on a rough calculation, the Head Translator's office will have to be strengthened by the addition of half a dozen graduate clerks in the Malayalam Section and an equal number with a Senior Tamil Translator at their head in the Tamil Section and it is not improbable that the Head Translator would find it impossible to efficiently supervise the Malayalam Section single-handed. This will mean in the shape of salaries alone more than Rs. 13,000 a year.

(4) (*a*) Rs. 1,300.

(*b*) Rs. 1,900 for publishing the English version. The publication of the Malayalam translation will cost Rs. 2,500 and the Tamil translation Rs. 2,900 in addition.

(5) In view of the very heavy additional expense involved, Government regret their inability to revert to the former practice.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to give any information as to the number of copies of these reports that have been already purchased by the public?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: I do not know the exact number. But I know that the number of copies purchased by the public is very small.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: May I know whether Government will be prepared to take such steps as will facilitate the copies of these reports being sold at a less price so that the public may purchase them more easily?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The matter will be enquired into.

Publication of the Legislative Council Proceedings in the Vernacular.

125. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: (*a*) Are the Government aware that the majority of the voters of the constituencies that have elected members to the Legislative Council are ignorant of the English language?

(*b*) Are the Government aware of the fact that the public are eager to know the nature of the work done and of the speeches made at the Legislative Council by the members elected by them?

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